

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILLIAM J. PERRY
JOINT STATEMENT, WITH GENERAL JOHN SHALIKASHVILI, CHAIRMAN, JCS, ON A
NEW U.S. PEACEKEEPING POLICY FOLLOWING A WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCEMENT
MAY 5, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR CORRESPONDENTS

No. 102-M
May 5, 1994

SecDef Perry and CJCS Gen Shalikashvili Comments on New Peacekeeping Policy

Last year, President Clinton directed an interagency review of U.S. peacekeeping policy in order to more effectively address the realities of the post-Cold War era. After extensive interagency deliberations and Congressional consultations, President Clinton signed the Presidential Decision Directive on Reforming Multilateral Peace Operations.

To more effectively manage and fund UN peace operations within the U.S. government, the Administration has developed the concept of "shared responsibility." Under this approach, the day-to-day management of peace operations is divided between the Departments of State and Defense, depending on the likelihood of hostilities, or the involvement of U.S. combat units. This approach makes the best use of State and Defense Departments' strengths and will better enable DoD to bring a military perspective to operations involving combat or the participation of U.S. forces.

Secretary of Defense William Perry and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John Shalikashvili issued the following joint statement upon the White House announcement of the new policy:

"This important document, which DoD helped develop and fully supports, establishes policy that will enable the U.S. to respond effectively to the demands of the post-Cold War world.

"Although the U.S. armed forces must and will retain the capability to fight and win wars, we will participate in the full range of peace operations when it is in our interests to do so. It is our conviction that properly conceived and well-executed peace operations can be a useful tool to protect and advance U.S. national security interests.

"We are taking a number of steps to improve U.S. military capabilities for participating in peacekeeping and peace enforcement operations, including efforts to develop doctrine, conduct appropriate training, and determine necessary equipment requirements for these operations.

"Multilateral peace operations can play an important role in national security, and the forces we have planned for the 1990s and beyond provide us with the necessary capabilities to selectively participate in such operations."

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